

It's time for MCA to step up to the plate
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We Malaysians from the non-Malay community – who have been unfairly and unequally treated for umpteenth times in this country – are appalled by the silence after Mohd Nazri Abdul Aziz's reply in Dewan Rakyat two days ago.

Where were all the MCA MPs during that time? Are they not having 'balls' to rebut the mediocre and unacceptable reply that has been made on the controversy.

Issuing a written protest to the media after the session through MCA's deputy publicity chief has not done any justice to the slurs and insults that have been thrown at our ancestors and desecrated our forefathers' reputation and credibility – apart from insulting the dignity of the present generation, who are lawful citizens of the country.

If MCA cannot even defend the dignity of the Chinese Malaysians and likewise for our comrades from the Indian Malaysians community when it is under attack, then what good is there for MCA to still be in the government? We do not expect MCA and the rest to be subservient to Umno in BN.

We thus demand that MCA and other component parties in BN play an equal leadership role in the ruling coalition as agreed in the Alliance days. When such transgressions on our dignity and rights are not defended this is what you will be receiving from the gangsters, recalcitrants, racists and bigots of Umno.

We did not elect the MCA MPs to merely be VIPs officiating events and cutting ribbons. We need more serious focus and attention to be paid to the present hard and intractable socio-economic-political issues that are affecting non-Malays, namely:

i) Entrenched interests and safeguards for the other communities as provided for under Article 153(1) and Article 153(4) to Article 153(9) of the federal constitution and read together with the provisions under Article 8 – which had been distorted and taken advantage of to suit to the selfish needs and demands of the 'Umnoputras'.

ii) Educational opportunities, advancement and equal allocations for Mandarin, Tamil and missionary schools in Malaysia. The allocation of RM80 million for such schools under the recently announced 10th Malaysia Plan (10MP) is peanuts when compared to the RM300million approved for pre-schools under Permata tutelage. We also demand meritocratic scholarships for bright students and teachers in national-type schools for their further studies and career advancement in their fields of education.

iii) The implementation plans for the 10MP and the New Economic Model (NEM).

iv) The urban poor who have not been given due and proper attention by the planners and government of the days. We can see that very large monetary allocations have been approved under many Malaysian development plans for rural development but minimal attention has been paid to the disadvantaged and the poor in the towns and cities.

v) The communities living in the new villages are also very much neglected and no sustainable plan of action has been formulated for their development and progress.

vi) Revise all laws, decisions and policies made and implemented by federal agencies, bodies and state governments to verify their consistency with the spirit and letters of the constitution.

If the component parties of the BN do not understand intentions and correct expressions of written laws like the federal constitution then it is suggested here that they get the services of eminent lawyers from the Bar Council to offer expert advice. This would enable MCA to defend its stance on some of the lingering constitutional and policy issues that have been hijacked and distorted by racists from Perkasa, Gertak and other 'Umnoputras'.

The action that MCA is taking today will have a profound impact on the future well-being and destiny of all Malaysians and not just the Chinese Malaysians. These important duties entrusted to MPs upheld and executed honourably and with strong courage and convictions to reclaim the trust of the populace.

"If MCA wants to know its past, it needs to look into its present condition. If MCA wants to know its future, it needs to look into its present actions."

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